

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striktthrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 6 and 11, and ADD new claim 16 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A figure selection method of selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:
designating one of the figure elements; and
retrieving figure elements adjacent to a designated another figure element which is connected with and/or is regarded to be connected with the designated figure element.
2. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection method according to claim 1 wherein said retrieving retrieves figure elements in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.
3. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection method according to claim 1 wherein said retrieving further retrieves figure elements adjacent to the retrieved figure elements.
4. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection method according to claim 3 wherein said retrieving performs a retrieval process a predetermined number of times.
5. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection method according to claim 1 further comprising:
displaying the figure elements retrieved by said retrieving in a style different from that of other figure elements.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A figure selection device selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:
a figure element designation unit designating ~~a one of the figure element~~elements; and
a figure element retrieval unit retrieving ~~a figure element~~other figure elements adjacent to which are connected with and/or regarded to be connected with the designated figure element.

7. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection device according to claim 6 wherein the figure element retrieval unit retrieves a figure element in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.

8. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection device according to claim 6 wherein the figure element retrieval unit further retrieves a figure element adjacent to the retrieved figure element.

9. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection device according to claim 8 wherein the figure element retrieval unit performs a retrieval process a predetermined number of times.

10. (ORIGINAL) The figure selection device according to claim 6 further comprising: a display unit displaying the figure element retrieved by the figure element retrieval unit in a style different from that of other figure elements.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium storing a figure selection program selecting a figure formed by a plurality of figure elements, comprising:
designating one of the figure elements; and
retrieving a figure element adjacent to a designated another figure element which is connected with and/or is regarded to be connected with the designated figure element.

12. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 wherein said retrieving retrieves a figure element in a neighborhood of the designated figure element.

13. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 wherein said retrieving further retrieves a figure element adjacent to the retrieved figure element.

14. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 13 wherein said retrieving performs a retrieval process at a predetermined number of times.

15. (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 11 further comprising:
displaying the figure element retrieved by said retrieving in a style different from that of other figure elements.

16. (NEW) A figure selection method of selecting a figure having elements, comprising:
defining relationship of the elements of the figure; and
automatically retrieving elements of the figure upon selection of one of the elements in
the relationship.